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Message Text

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20
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SY-05 USSS-00 SCCT-01 FAA-00

DOTE-00 IO-10 OC-05 CCO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 CAB-02 COME-00 /086 W
---------- 102778
P 080903Z JUL 75
FM AMCONSUL KARACHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9002
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY
AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, PK
SUBJECT: EXPLOSION ON PARKED PIA AIRCRAFT

REF: ISLAMABAD 6158

1. PIA CHAIRMAN NUR KHAN AND PIA MANAGING DIRECTOR ENVER JAMAL IN SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS HAVE CONFIRMED GENERAL OUTLINE BOMB INCIDENT AS REPORTED REFTEL. ENVER JAMAL, IN CONVERSATION WITH DPO JULY 7, SAID EXPLOSION UNDOUBTEDLY CAUSED BY BOMB, PROBABLY OF PLASTIC TYPE, WHICH HAD BEEN LEFT UNDER SEAT IN PASSENGER COMPARTMENT AND WHICH BLEW HOLE ABOUT ONE FOOT IN DIAMETER IN LEFTHAND SIDE OF FUSELAGE. EXPLOSION, WHICH OCCURRED JUST OVER WHEEL WELL, ALSO DAMAGED THIS PART OF AIRCRAFT AND THREE LONGITUDINAL FLOOR MEMBERS. JAMAL SAID PIA TEAM MAKING DETAILED INVESTIGATION OF DAMAGE, BUT ESTIMATED PLANE WOULD BE OUT OF ACTION FROM 4 TO 6 WEEKS AND THAT THIS WOULD PREVENT ADDITION OF FOURTH FLIGHT ON KARACHI-RAWALPINDI ROUTE UNTIL PLANE REPAIRED.

2. JAMAL ADDED POLICE EXPERTS HAD BEEN EXAMINING EXPLOSION AREA IN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN MORE DETAILS CONCERNING TYPE OF BOMB USED
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BUT HAD FOUND LITTLE EVIDENCE SO FAR. JAMAL BELIEVES NO DOUBT THAT

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BOMB PLANTED BY "SAME PEOPLE WHO TRIED TWICE TO BOMB PIA OFFICE IN PESHAWAR" AND THAT THEREFORE THIS BOMB INCIDENT CONNECTED WITH SERIES OF EXPLOSIONS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN FRONTIER AND OTHER AREAS PAKISTAN OVER LAST YEAR.

3. DURING DINNER PARTY JULY 7, PIA CHAIRMAN AIR MARSHAL NUR KHAN AGREED WITH SUGGESTION PUT BY DPO THAT PIA SECURITY HAD BEEN SOMEWHAT LAX OWING PAKISTAN'S FAVORED POSITION WITH ARABS. HE REMARKED THAT IT WOULD HAVE TO BE TIGHTENED UP. HE BELIEVES BOMB WAS PLACED ON AIRCRAFT AFTER IT HAD LANDED AT RAWALPINDI AND THAT, AS REPORTED BY EMBASSY, BOMB NOT INTENDED TO EXPLODE AFTER PLANE HAD TAKEN OFF. (ANOTHER WELL INFORMED GUEST SAID NUR KHAN HAD RECEIVED ANONYMOUS LETTER 10 DAYS AGO STATING THAT PIA SECURITY WAS POOR AND THAT WRITER WOULD PROVE HIS ALLEGATION SOON.)

4. DIRECTOR GENERAL CIVIL AVIATION RIZVI, WHO MUCH MORE CLOSE MOUTHED ABOUT INCIDENT AND PROBABLY LESS WELL INFORMED THAN PIA OFFICIALS, ADDED NO FURTHER INFORMATION TO THE ABOVE. HE CONFINED HIS COMMENTS TO ADMISSION THAT EXPLOSION WOULD BE LOGICALLY CAUSED BY A BOMB AND THAT HE WAS JUST LEAVING FOR PINDI TO LOOK AT AIRCRAFT.

5. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE OFTEN CASUAL ATTITUDE OF POLICE AND OTHER SECURITY PERSONNEL AROUND KARACHI AIRPORT AND PROBABLY ELSEWHERE IN PAKISTAN WILL UNDERGO CONSIDERABLE (THOUGH PERHAPS ONLY TEMPORARY) CHANGE AFTER THIS INCIDENT, WHICH HAS EXPOSED INADEQUACIES OF PRESENT SECURITY PRACTICES AND WHICH COULD HAVE BEEN MUCH MORE DAMAGING THAN IT PROVED TO BE IF ANY PASSENGERS HAD BEEN ON AIRCRAFT WHEN BOMB EXPLODED.
TIGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPLOSIONS, AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS, AIRLINES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchant0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750236-0256
From: KARACHI
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Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750778/aaaacrkp.tel
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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